

*Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter, as defined in the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, is the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another. The classification of this offense, as for all other Crime Index Offenses, is based solely on police investigation, as opposed to the determination of a court, medical examiner, coroner, jury, or other judicial body. Not included in the count for this offense classification are deaths caused by negligence, suicide, or accident; justifiable homicides; and attempts to murder or assaults with the intent to murder, which are scored as aggravated assaults.*

## Murder Tops off at Five During the Third Quarter

There was one murder in Cambridge during March and an additional two in June, raising the index number for the first nine months of 2002 to a total of five incidents. The last time Cambridge registered five murders in a calendar year was 1991. There have not been more than seven murders in a year reported in the City since the mid-1970s. The homicide at Rhythm&Spice on Mass Ave. and the shooting on Windsor Street still remain under investigation. A synopsis of the incidents follows below:

- Jason Girouard, 32, of Waltham was arrested for manslaughter following the death of a male victim. The victim died on 2/22/02 after eleven days in the intensive care unit from massive head trauma that resulted from an incident on 2/11/02 at Hi-Fi Pizza in Central Square. Girouard and the victim got into a shoving match in the restaurant then when outside to continue the fight. When officers arrived, the victim was found on the ground unconscious, and Girouard had fled the scene.

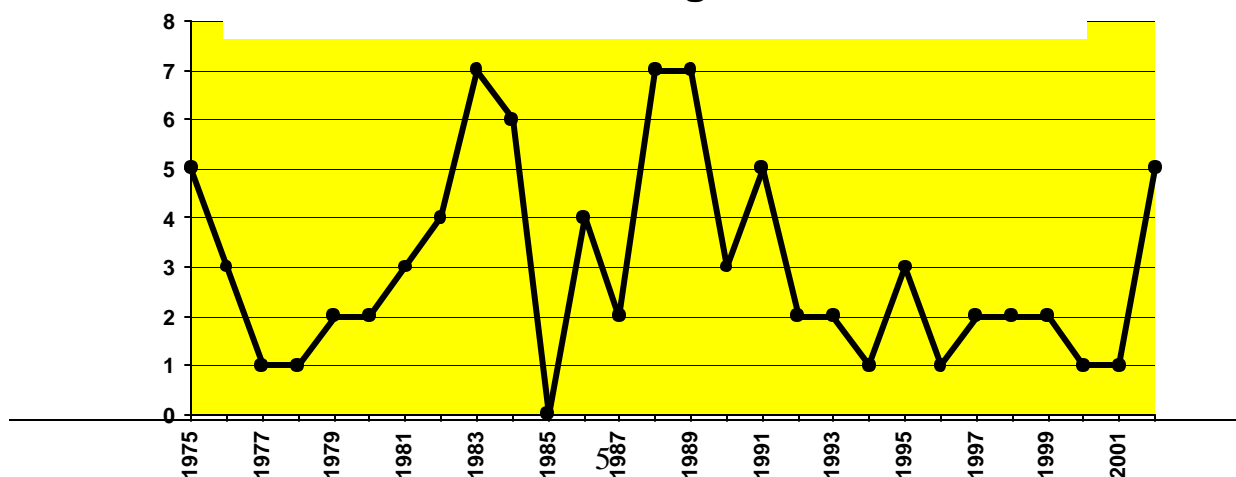
- On April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2002, a young man was fatally shot outside a nightclub after a fight among several men broke out inside the Rhythm and Spice bar and spilled out onto Mass Ave. The victim was identified as Ian Gray of Boston. Gray was shot once in the chest. The gunman fled on foot. This case is still under investigation.

- On 4/17/02 at 10:30PM, gunshots were heard at 16 Worcester Street. It was later determined that a murder /suicide between a husband and wife had been committed. The victims were identified as Scott and Desiree Saunders. Three children were in the apartment sleeping at the time of the incident. When police arrived at the scene, the male victim was found with a gunshot wound to his head and the female victim was found lying across the bed with gunshot wounds. There were previous calls for domestic disputes at this location.

- On 6/17/02 at 7:00PM, while responding to a report of gunshots at 167 Windsor St, officers discovered Ricardo Williams from Malden with a gunshot wound to the side of his face. The victim was transported to CCH where he was pronounced dead. This case remains under investigation.

- On Tuesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2002, a Cambridge man who tried to blame the shooting of his friend on two phantom black male suspects, was arrested and charged with manslaughter of his close friend under the Leonard Russell Bridge. Andrew Power-Koch was arraigned the next day at the Cambridge District Court in the shooting of his friend Sean Howard.

## Murder in Cambridge, 1975 to Date

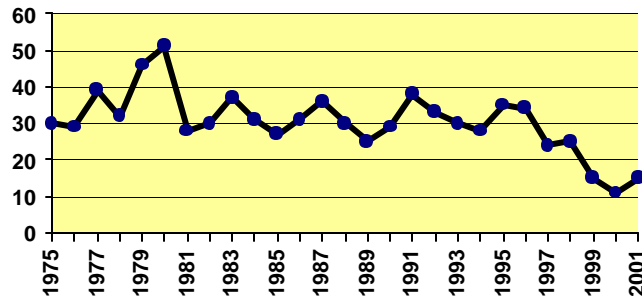


10 in 2001 · 10 in 2002

# Rape

Forcible Rape, as defined by the Uniform Crime Reporting Program is the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. Attempts to commit rape by force or threat of force, and assaults with the intent to commit rape, are also included; however, statutory rape (without force) and other sex offenses are excluded.

## Rape in Cambridge, 1975-2000



The total of ten rapes committed during the first nine months of 2002 is identical to the number of incidents reported during this time period last year .

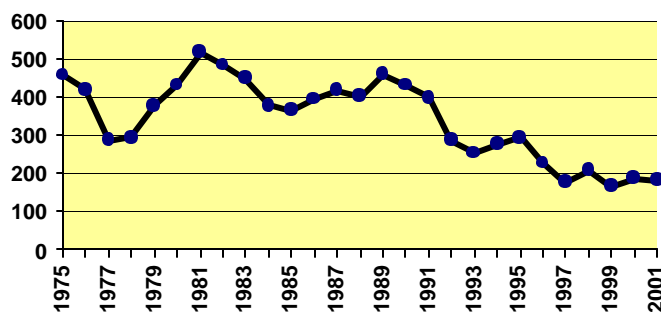
Eight of the ten rapes reported during the first nine months of 2002 were classified as acquaintance (non- stranger) incidents. The two rapes reported during the third quarter were both classified as acquaintance type situations.

125 in 2001 · 136 in 2002  
9% Increase

# Robbery

Robbery is the taking or attempted taking of anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear. This crime includes muggings, purse snatchings, and bank hold-ups.

## Robbery in Cambridge, 1975-2001



Type	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2001	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002	% Change
Commercial Robbery	22	29	+32
Street Robbery	103	106	+2
Total	125	135	+9%

Robbery increased slightly in 2002, after a two-year low in 2000. Forty-one percent of the robbery Cambridge has experienced so far took place over the past three summer months, from July to September.

## Commercial Robbery

Commercial robberies increased 36% in the third quarter of 2002. The following is a breakdown of which type of locations experienced robberies so far this year, and how many occurred:

Misc. Retail Locations— 8  
Bank — 6

Jewelry Store — 2  
Grocery Store — 2

Drug Store — 1  
Convenience Store — 1

**Bank Robberies:** A total of six bank robberies have been reported in Cambridge since the start of 2002, two of which occurred over the past three months. These two robberies occurred within a day of each other in September and later resulted in an arrest. In the first incident, the suspect passed a note to the bank teller at Citizen's Bank on Portland St. demanding all the money the teller had. The suspect also threatened the teller in this note and said he would come back to harm the teller if anyone was told about the robbery. An additional bank robbery occurred the following day at The Century Bank on Mass Ave. when the suspect passed a note to the teller demanding cash in large bills and no dye pack, and motioned to his pocket, indicating that he had a gun. Although no weapon was shown, the teller gave the suspect an unknown amount of money in \$100 and \$20 bills. The suspect in both of these cases, a Florida fugitive, later confessed to the Lawrence Police Department to robbing both of these banks as well as six others in the Greater Boston area and New Hampshire.

**Gas Station Robberies:** Three robberies from gas stations have been reported since January 1<sup>st</sup>, one of which occurred during the most recent three months. One day after the two bank robberies, the gas station, 'Gas With A Smile', on Mass Ave. was held up by an armed robber. In this scenario, the ski-mask-wearing suspect walked into the station via a side door, fired a round from a silver handgun into the floor, and shouted at the attendant to give him money. The attendant gave the thief around \$400 in small bills and fled up Blake St. This robbery was not related to the recent bank robberies despite the close proximity in time.

**Retail Robberies:** The Cambridgeside Galleria experiences a numerous amount of thefts each year, ranging from robberies to shoplifting. During the third quarter of 2002, a total of eight robberies occurred at miscellaneous retail locations, half of which took place at the Galleria. Of these four robberies at the Galleria, one episode involved a weapon when a knife was shown after two teenage males refused to pay for a pair of boots from a shoe store in the mall. Another robbery occurred when a man ran out of a jewelry store with a diamond engagement ring after distracting the employee by looking at numerous rings. A weapon was involved in an incident in Porter Square when the suspect walked into the store, placed his coat on the counter, stated that there was a weapon in the coat, and demanded money. The employee handed over an unknown amount of cash and no one was hurt. Other incidents ranged from stealing a store's receipts to passing notes to cashiers demanding cash.

Business Districts	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2000	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2001	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002
Galleria/East Cambridge	4	3	7
Kendall Square/MIT	1	3	1
Inman Square	3	2	2
Central Square	3	1	4
Cambridgeport/Riverside	1	3	1
Bay Square/Upper B.way	0	0	1
Harvard Square	2	4	5
1500–1900 Mass. Ave.	0	2	3
Porter Square	2	2	4
Alewife/West Cambridge	2	2	3

A total of seven business districts reported an increase in commercial robberies, while three reported a decrease or no change.

- Historically speaking, the Bay Square district had not reported a robbery during the third quarter since 1997. The sole incident that took place during the third quarter of 2002 occurred at a parking garage on Cambridge St. when the suspect was seen rummaging through a car that was not his. When the suspect realized he was seen, he left the car. The suspect then proceeded to the ticket booth and grabbed \$100 the attendant was counting.

Two restaurants were robbed this quarter, both of which took place in Harvard Square. The first robbery occurred in mid-February at the Narita Restaurant when the suspect came into the restaurant and placed order to go. The culprit then held a knife to the cashier's wrist asking for money. The employee tried to open the drawer behind the counter, but the cook came from kitchen and chased the culprit away. The second incident took place the last day of July when an employee was closing Pizzeria Uno and two

suspects entered the restaurant. The suspects robbed the manager at gunpoint while counting the night's receipts, and left with a considerable amount of cash.

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## Street Robbery

Street robberies increased by 2% in the first three quarters of 2002. Of the 106 street robberies reported:

- Four were "Acquaintance" robberies, committed by friends, co-workers, or drinking buddies.
- Two were "Homeless" robberies, in which a homeless person was robbed usually by a group of kids or by other homeless.
- Thirteen were "Bully Boy" robberies, in which school-aged youths robbed each other.
- One "Drug Deal" robbery was recorded, in which suspects approach their victims asking for drugs or if they'd like to buy drugs and then proceeded to rob them.
- Fourteen were "Pack" robberies, where a group of young males used strong-arm tactics to relieve a victim of his money.
- Fifty-one were "Predatory" robberies, in which one or two offenders "mugged" their victims with a weapon or the threat of a weapon. Of these fifty-one robberies, eleven were classified as "crude," meaning that the robbers seemed edgy, unprepared, and unpredictable. The remaining forty were "Professional," indicating that the robbers were collected, efficient, and effective.
- Twelve were "Purse Snatchings," in which the robber approached a female victim from behind and grabbed her purse.
- One robbery was classified as a "dial-a-victim" scenario, which is when a delivery person is intercepted before entering a phony location by suspects brandishing a knife or gun.
- One incident was a "bikejacking" where a group of attackers will approach their victim and through force or weapons will knock the victim off of his bike.

Types of Weapons Used in Street Robberies This Year	
Type of Weapon	Number of Incidents Reported
No Weapon	21
Handgun	14
Hands/Feet	25
Knife	20
Brick	2
Bottle	3
Other/Unknown	21

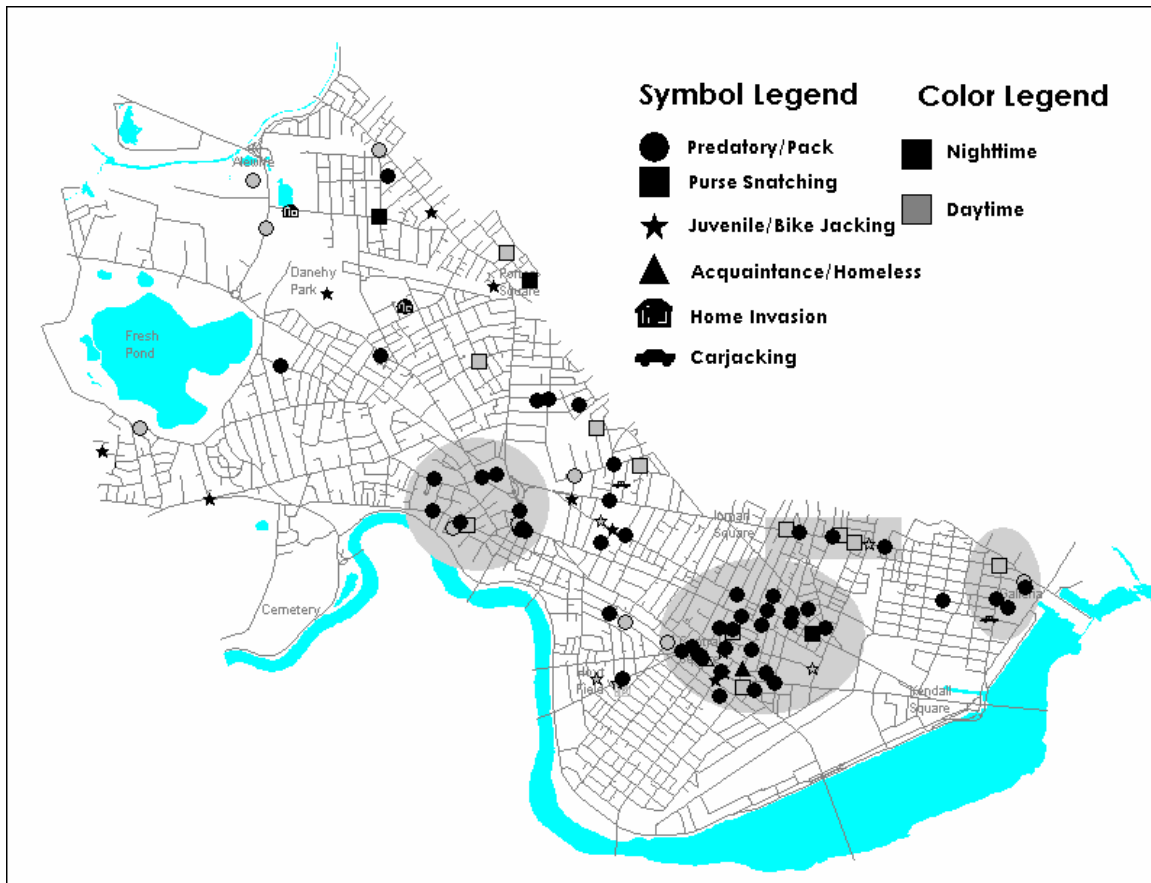
<b>Geographic Breakdown of Street Robberies</b>			
<b>Neighborhood</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Q. 2000</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Q. 2001</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002</b>
East Cambridge	10	12	<b>9</b>
MIT	1	2	<b>0</b>
Inman/Harrington	16	7	<b>10</b>
Area 4	23	18	<b>24</b>
Cambridgeport	16	19	<b>9</b>
Mid-Cambridge	12	13	<b>11</b>
Riverside	15	8	<b>9</b>
Agassiz	1	4	<b>5</b>
Peabody	5	7	<b>6</b>
West Cambridge	6	8	<b>11</b>
North Cambridge	5	4	<b>9</b>
Cambridge Highlands	0	0	<b>1</b>
Strawberry Hill	2	1	<b>2</b>

- Three were “Unprovoked,” in which victims found themselves in innocent situations that suddenly turned hostile.
- Three were “Home Invasions,” where robbers enter their victim’s homes, usually at night, subduing the residents, and robbing them. In January, two unknown suspects wielding a gun and wearing masks stopped two residents of 362 Rindge Ave. at the elevator. The suspects forced the residents back to their apartment and made them sit while they robbed them of all their belongings. The victims managed to escape unharmed. The second occurred in July when two unknown suspects entered the backdoor of a Thingvalla Avenue apartment. The suspects claimed to have a gun and took \$800 from the victim before fleeing.
- Three were “carjacking” situations where robbers usually approach their victim while they are getting in or out of their car, brandishing a weapon, and demand the car.

#### *Street robbery series and trends observed in the first nine months of 2002:*

- Three robberies occurred over the Fourth of July Holiday, one of which ended in an arrest. The other two robberies that occurred reported the same suspect description who targeted lone females. In these purse-snatching situations, the suspect came up behind the victim, grabbed her purse from her shoulder, and only succeeded in one of the robberies. The arrest was executed after the Waltham resident pulled up in his car along side of the victims’ car, pointed a silver revolver at the victim, and demanded cash.
- The first week of September experienced five street robberies, when two occurred on a Monday and three on a Thursday. In two of the robberies, the suspects rode bicycles and assaulted their victims, taking money and other valuables. One of the robberies was completed by using mace on the victim after distracting him and stealing his wallet.
- Fifteen street robberies occurred in August, where suspect descriptions were given in all but one incident. Three robberies occurred on the same day during the first week of the month, none of which were related. Another spree began later in the month when two robberies took place on the same day in Area 4, two hours within each other. The first incident occurred just after dark, when the two male suspects rode their bikes to a parked cab, asking if the driver wanted to buy drugs. When the cab driver declined, one of the suspects produced a folding knife and slashed the victim on the arm numerous times. The next robbery occurred two hours later when the same two suspects approached a group of young women and stole one of their purses. While fleeing, one of the suspects dropped a toy gun.
- Area 4 experienced five street robberies throughout the month of September, three of which occurred two days within each other. Two of these robberies also involved bikes, similar to those in the beginning of the month. Due to the similarity of the suspect descriptions, it is believed that the majority of street robberies that occurred in September were most likely committed by the same group of individuals.

### **Street Robberies Reported in Cambridge Between January 1, 2002 and September 30, 2002**



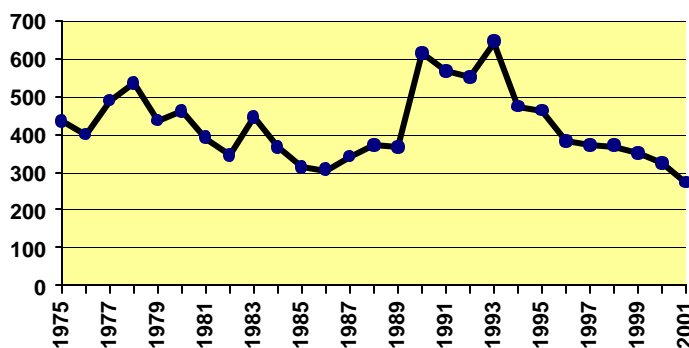
226 in 2001 · 231 in 2002  
2% Increase

## Aggravated Assault

Aggravated Assault describes an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. Attempts are included since it is not necessary that injury result when a gun, knife, or other weapon is used which could and probably would result in serious personal injury if the crime were successfully completed.

Aggravated assault continued to decrease in the third quarter of 2002. As is typical for this crime, the majority of assaults were domestic in nature, perpetrated by a member of the victim's family or a romantic partner. Eighty-two arrests were made in the first nine months of 2002. Over ninety percent of those arrested were male and most resided in Cambridge. The top two weapons used during these assaults were hands/feet (117 incidents) and knives (34 incidents).

### Aggravated Assault in Cambridge, 1975-2001



The following is a review of the most serious aggravated assaults reported in the first nine months of 2002:

- A group of juveniles got into a fight at Hoyt Field in late May. One juvenile, thought to be pregnant, was thrown on the ground and kicked repeatedly. A second juvenile was stabbed repeatedly and was taken to the hospital.

- In early June, an argument broke out between two groups of young men in the Washington Elms courtyard. One suspect pulled out a gun and while another man tried to get the gun out of the suspect's hands, he was shot three times.
- Also in late June, two juveniles known to hang out in the Harvard Square "Pit," stabbed a Boston man in the side. The man was taken to the hospital and listed as in critical condition.
- In early July, a Boston man was sitting in his car talking to a friend when an unknown suspect came up and started punching the man's friend. As the man got out of his car to help his friend, the suspect struck him in the head with a baseball bat. The man was immediately operated on due to swelling of his brain.
- In August, a woman was taken to the hospital after a homeless man, whom she had been allowing to live with her, came to a party and struck her in the head with a baseball bat five times. The woman suffered extensive facial trauma.

Classification	% of 2001 3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. Assaults	% of 2002 3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. Assaults
Acquaintance	12%	16%
Affray/Brawl	3%	6%
Bar/Alcohol	6%	7%
Domestic	27%	31%
Homeless	3%	3%
Juvenile/Gang	13%	11%
Landlord/Neighbor	2%	1%
On Police Officer	4%	1%
Shop Owner/Patron	2%	2%
Traffic/Parking	8%	5%
Unprovoked	13%	11%
Workplace	4%	4%
Other	3%	2%

Though it is rare to find assault "hot spots," there were a few during the first nine months of 2002:

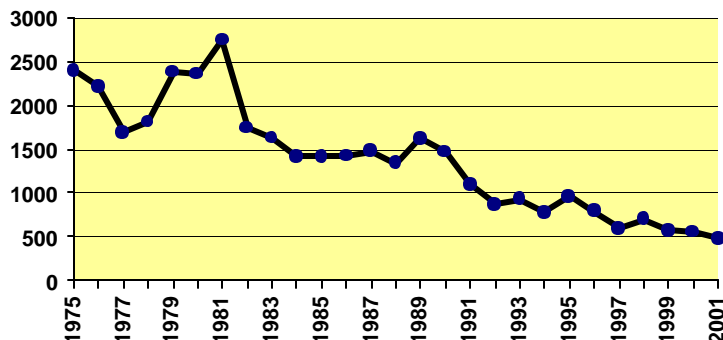
- Harvard Square and Central Square have been hot spots all year long for assaults in the early hours of morning. Most of these incidents occur after local bars close and are usually unprovoked or due to intoxication. Central Square also reported a high number of domestic assaults.
- The area of Bishop Allen Drive and Columbia Street (Area 4) and the area surrounding the Galleria Mall (East Cambridge) continue to be hot spots for juvenile altercations.
- Assaults committed by and against homeless people continue to be concentrated around the shelter located on Albany Street.

479 in 2001 · 575 in 2002  
20% Increase

## Burglary

*Burglary describes the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft. The use of force to gain entry is not required to classify an offense as burglary. Burglary attempts are included in the total.*

**Burglary in Cambridge, 1975-2001**



Type	3rd Q. 2001	3rd Q. 2002	% Change
Commercial Burglary	98	128	+31%
Residential Burglary	381	447	+17%
Total	479	575	+20%

Overall, burglary increased by 20% in the first nine months of 2002. Despite the increase, this is a decrease from the first quarter of 2002's dramatic 66% increase.

## Commercial Burglary

When comparing the forty-seven commercial breaks of 2002 reported between July and the end of September with the third quarter totals for 2001, the 31% increase translates into the largest quarterly incline for this crime type since 2000. Although no prolific patterns have emerged during this quarter, business offices have continued to be targeted through the past three months, which is a continuing trend from the past two years.

Business District	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2000	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2001	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002
Galleria/East Cambridge	10	14	22
Kendall Square/MIT	27	7	6
Inman Square	19	16	14
Central Square	19	16	28
Cambridgeport/Riverside	1	10	3
Bay Square/Upper B.way	10	7	4
Harvard Square	9	6	23
1500–1900 Mass. Ave.	7	5	1
Porter Square	13	12	8
Alewife/West Cambridge	14	5	19

The second and third quarters of 2002 recorded no real patterns. While commercial breaks into retail establishments have remained steady as a hotspot for breaks, this year's trend of breaks into business offices contrasts last year's pattern of construction breaks. While one rose, the other declined. Breaks into restaurants and bars have notably increased during the past three months, accounting for seven of the twelve breaks in this premise type this year.

Among the several commercial burglary

incidents reported during the first nine months of 2002:

- Forty-seven commercial breaks have been reported in the third quarter, or 38% of the total thus far, two of which resulted in arrests. During mid-August, two male Cambridge juveniles were arrested when observed carrying little league equipment from the shed at Donnelly Field. The most recent arrest occurred in early September when the male Cambridge resident and two unidentified suspects were noticed to be in a law office without authorization and were subsequently arrested.
- Over the first weekend in September, eleven commercial breaks were reported. The burglaries occurred in unoccupied commercial buildings. These breaks were scattered throughout the city during this three-day span. There was one arrest during this three-day spree.
- Four breaks were reported in the 600-800 blocks of Concord Avenue during the past three months. Each of the targets were office buildings where various items were reported missing, including cash and a laptop. Two breaks occurred at the same medical building within a two-week span. In another unrelated incident, unknown suspect(s) entered a construction site and stole two company trucks containing \$4,000 in tools.
- The theft of three laptops from a Massachusetts Avenue office resulted in the largest monetary loss.

TYPE	3rd Q. 2001	3rd Q. 2002
<b>Misc. Retail Establishments</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>14</b>
Industrial/Construction	10	8
<b>Business Offices</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>34</b>
Church	0	1
Clothing Store	0	9
Bar/Restaurant	11	12
Hair/Beauty/Health	7	0
Auto Sales/Service	0	6
School	6	6
Parking Garage	1	2
Hotel	4	1
Laundromat	3	3
Bank	1	4
Other	13	14

## Residential Burglary

Residential burglaries, or "housebreaks," have increased 17% in the first nine months of 2002. There were 145 housebreaks reported in the third quarter of 2002. One of the more positive indicators to be identified over the summer months was the fact that housebreaks registered the first quarterly decline after six

consecutive seasonal increases. Housebreaks, which had shot up 66% during the first quarter of 2002, and were recording a 44% incline after the first six months of the year, are now 20% above the 2001 total. However, there were 50 fewer breaks reported between July and September this year than in the summer of 2001 and the final count of 130 breaks is the lowest third quarter total in five years.

Between July and the end of September, Cambridgeport reported the most breaks with a total of twenty as Mid-Cambridge was a close second, recording eighteen breaks. The following are some of the notable

breaks:

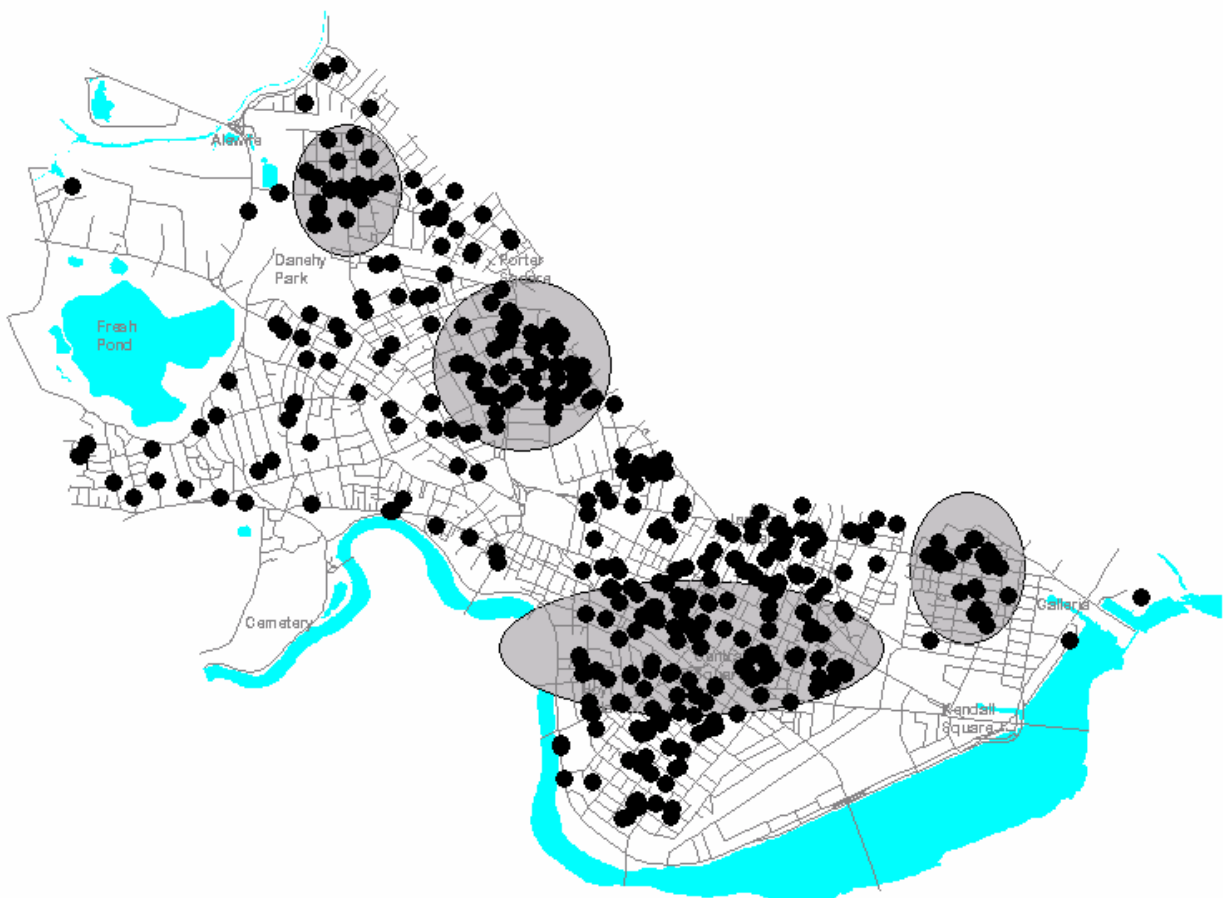
Neighborhood	3rd Q. 2000	3rd Q. 2001	3rd Q. 2002
East Cambridge	26	31	<b>33</b>
MIT	1	0	<b>0</b>
Inman/Harrington	20	29	<b>31</b>
Area 4	40	54	<b>41</b>
Cambridge port	34	39	<b>58</b>
Mid-Cambridge	55	81	<b>75</b>
Riverside	26	45	<b>31</b>
Amasses	14	13	<b>38</b>
Peabody	26	20	<b>47</b>
West Cambridge	15	35	<b>27</b>
North Cambridge	27	30	<b>46</b>
Cambridge Highlands	0	0	<b>2</b>
Strawberry Hill	4	4	<b>9</b>

- In the last week of September, twelve housebreaks were reported. The breaks were dispersed across the city. In a majority of these breaks, the suspect(s) broke into the residences by breaking rear windows to gain access. The breaks were concentrated between 4:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m. During this spree, one apartment building on Cogswell Avenue reported four incidents over the weekend. In one incident at this apartment building, jewelry was the targeted item.

- In the third quarter, there have been several apartment buildings where numerous breaks were reported. The breaks occurred on May, Prospect, Sidney, Inman, Mount Auburn

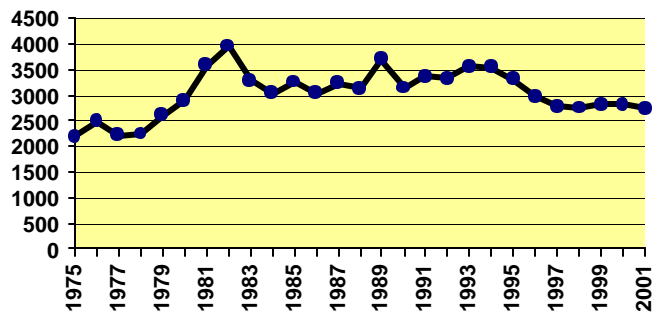
Streets, Museum Way, and Cogswell Avenue. In all but two of these buildings, the apartments were broken into on the same day during the same time period.

- Six people have been arrested in four separate incidents during this quarter. Three arrestees were local males who are repeat offenders and believed to be connected to the high rise in breaks during the beginning of 2002. These three arrests are a strong contributing factor for the vast decrease in



Larceny is the unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession of another. It includes crimes such as shoplifting, pocket-picking, thefts from motor vehicles, thefts of auto parts and accessories, horse thefts, and bicycle thefts, in which no use of force, violence, fraud, or trespass occurs. In the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, this crime category does not include embezzlement, "con" games, forgery, and worthless checks. Motor vehicle theft is also excluded

### Larceny in Cambridge, 1975-2001



from this category, as it is 61a separate crime index offense.

Type	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2001	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002
Larceny from a Building	394	403
Larceny from Motor Vehicle	538	561
Larceny of a Bicycle	244	227
Larceny from a Person	334	296
Shoplifting	342	349
Larceny from a Residence	122	158
Larceny of Services	21	23
Larceny of a License Plate	75	76
Miscellaneous Larceny	39	50

Larceny (i.e., theft) remains the most common index crime. It accounts for 65% to 68% of all serious crime reported in Cambridge. To facilitate analysis, the Crime Analysis Unit divides the crime of larceny into the sub-categories on the following page.

Despite a mere 2% increase in total larcenies, sub-category totals changed significantly from last year, due to several patterns that emerged. The most prolific and on-going pattern reported involved larcenies from motor vehicles during the summer months of July and August, which triggered the past three months to record numbers comparable to those of the first six months of 2002.

## Larcenies from Building

Larcenies from buildings are further sub-divided into 14 categories:		
Type	Jan.-Sept. 2002	% of Total
Company property from offices	62	15%
Personal property from offices	35	9%
Property from school classrooms	36	9%
Property left on store counters	21	5%
Property "forgotten" in restrooms & other locations	18	4%
Property unattended in bars	13	3%
Employee property in back rooms of stores	33	8%
Property left in health club locker	45	11%
Property unattended in other locations	61	15%
Cash missing from store safes	43	11%
Property left in hotel rooms	10	2%
Property stolen from construction sites	11	3%
Property stolen from the perimeter of the company.	9	2%
Other/Misc.	6	1%

Larcenies from buildings are non-burglary and non-shoplifting thefts from commercial establishments. "Non-burglary" means that either the offender had a specific right to be on the premises (e.g., he worked there) or the building was open to the general public, and that no force was used to gain entry to the building where the theft was committed.

Clearly, the majority of larcenies from buildings occurred in businesses, where office property was targeted. Overall, larcenies from buildings increased by three percent in the third quarter of 2002. The following is a review of the patterns and trends recorded by the Crime Analysis Unit so far in 2002.

- The majority of *larcenies from buildings* occurred at various office buildings around the city. The typical scenario involved a suspect coming into the office, claiming to be looking for a job or using the bathroom, and then sneaking into empty offices to take laptops and wallets.
- A string of larcenies from office buildings in early summer occurred at the office park on Canal Park where laptops were targeted. Thanks to a surveillance camera, the perpetrator was caught on film and the police now had a face to put to the crime. The perpetrator was then seen by an employee as he attempted to steal that employee's laptop.
- Health clubs have traditionally reported patterns of *larcenies from buildings*. Only nine larcenies from health clubs were reported over the past three months, compared to the twenty-one that were reported in the first three months of 2001. Bally's Fitness Center, located at 1815 Massachusetts Avenue reported the most incidents since the beginning of the year with nine, while The Boston Sports Club on Mass Ave. Central Square and the gym at The Charles Hotel reported seven thefts each. These larcenies typically occur during the week at lunchtime or shortly after 5 p.m. when people leave work. Clients of the club put their belongings in a locker supplied by the club, go workout, and then return to find that someone has entered their locker and stolen their credit cards.

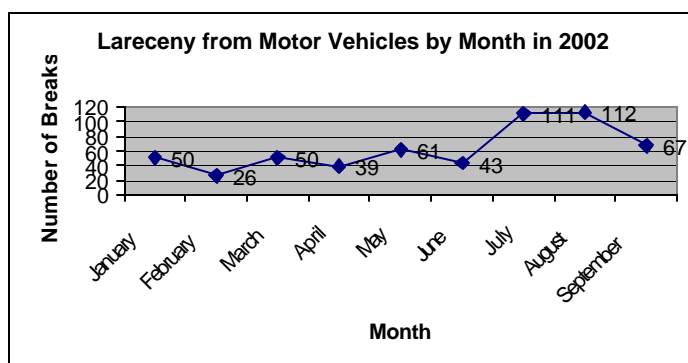
The majority of thefts occurring in the Bay square area, which experienced the highest increase from 16 to 27 incidents (69% increase), were thefts that took place in the Cambridge Rindge and Latin School. A total of fifteen thefts from this school were reported, along with an additional theft from the library. This increase is not normal for Bay Square, which has historically experienced less than twenty larcenies from buildings during the third quarter.

Business District	2001	2002	Change
Galleria/East Cambridge	88	65	- 26%
Kendall Square/MIT	46	37	- 20%
Inman Square	20	21	+ 1%
Central Square	64	75	+ 17%
Cambridgeport/Riverside	26	18	- 31%
Bay Square/Broadway	16	27	+ 69%
Harvard Square	51	59	+ 16%
1500-1900 Mass. Ave.	26	26	N/C
Porter Square	20	29	+ 45%
Alewife/West Cambridge	37	46	+ 24%

## Larcenies from Motor Vehicles

The three months of July (112), August (111), and September (67) have accounted for fifty-two percent (or 290) of the *larcenies from motor vehicles* thus far in 2002. These numbers nearly double those of the third quarter in 2001.

*Larcenies from motor vehicles* involve an offender either breaking into a car and stealing valuables within (e.g., cellular telephones, car stereos), or stealing an exterior accessory (e.g., tires, hubcaps). In an average year, it is second only to malicious destruction (vandalism) as the most commonly reported crime in Cambridge, as is the case so far in 2002.



The most commonly targeted item perpetrators coveted this past summer was car stereos, their CD players, and face plates. Brand names such as Aiwa, Kenwood, and Pioneer were often taken after entrance was gained most commonly by breaking windows and/or tampering with the car door locks. On many occasions, loose change, cell phones, and/or any other easily accessible items were taken in addition to the stereo equipment.

The historical pattern of motor vehicle break-ins extended past Central Square and into the Mid-Cambridge neighborhood this year. Mid-Cambridge experienced a record 109 incidents up and through the third quarter, half of which occurred over the past three months. This neighborhood felt the brunt of the busy

activity in July and August, where the numbers continued to increase. The majority of activity mainly occurred during the weekend (Saturday and Sunday) into the early week, when, for example, people would go away and come home to find their cars damaged and then discovered items missing. The most likely time for these was overnight between the hours of 8pm and 9am. This trend subsided in this neighborhood when, on three occasions, arrests were executed in Mid-Cambridge, resulting in the arrest of six individuals. One arrest in late August resulted in the apprehension of four males ranging in ages from 17 to 22, who were seen breaking into a victims' car. Analysis revealed that these same individuals were responsible for six other breaks in the immediate area. The two remaining arrests in this neighborhood within the past three months were of two separate homeless men, on different locations. These men were probably looking for a quick way to make cash, while the previous group of men were considered more of a 'professional' criminal since they were responsible for such a high number of break-ins and since burglarious tools and the coveted face plates to car CD players were found in their possession.

Eight neighborhoods experienced increases in *larcenies from motor vehicles* this year, when compared to the same time last year. Patterns occur in commercial areas during the day and in residential areas during the night. Residential hotspots include parking lots at large apartment buildings and complexes.

Neighborhood	2001	2002	%Change
East Cambridge	61	69	+ 13%
MIT	25	10	- 60%
Inman/Harrington	26	28	+ 8%
Area 4	82	62	- 24%
Cambridgeport	76	54	- 29%
Mid-Cambridge	65	109	+ 68%
Riverside	27	33	+ 22%
Agassiz	25	40	+ 60%
Peabody	52	45	- 13%
West Cambridge	31	39	+ 26%
North Cambridge	48	54	+ 13%
Cambridge Highlands	10	11	+ 10%
Strawberry Hill	10	7	- 30%

Commercial hotspots have traditionally included mall and business area parking lots and garages.

One major pattern that seems to come-and-go, but never disappears is a pattern of *larcenies from motor vehicles* in the Area 4 neighborhood. Although this neighborhood experienced a significant decrease of 24%, it still ranks the third highest of all the neighborhoods in the city with sixty-two incidents in the third quarter. The majority of the Area 4 breaks occurred in the Bishop Allen Drive area in close proximity to Norfolk, Columbia, and Main Streets. Specifically,

incidents were mainly reported on weeknights between 7pm and 11pm.

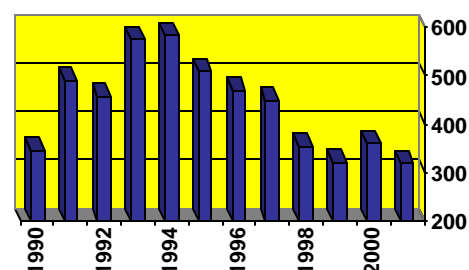
As was the case last year at this time, the parking lots at 362, 364, and 402 Rindge Ave. have seen their share of *larceny from motor vehicles*. A total of fourteen breaks have occurred here since the beginning of 2002, where most of the thieves entered the motor vehicles by smashing the window. This area of North Cambridge also fell victim to the theft of the hot item thieves were targeting this summer – car stereo/CD players and its' equipment. Other items targeted included a range of items from loose change to multiple CD changers, which are typically mounted in the trunks of the cars broken into.

## Larcenies of Bicycles

The Cambridge Police Department's bicycle theft statistics do not include thefts reported on MIT or Harvard University property. These additional thefts could add several hundred to the total.

Between 1989 and 1994, bicycle theft exhibited a sharp ascent, soaring from an average of 270 per year in the 1980s to 575 in 1993. In 2000, Cambridge experienced a slight increase in the otherwise declining crime. It looks as though this year the totals will once again decrease.

**Bicycle Larceny, 1990-2001**



Although increases were seen in various neighborhoods throughout the city, Cambridge experienced an overall decrease in *larcenies of bicycles* by seven percent from 244 larcenies in 2001 during the third quarter to 227 in 2002. The surges became more significant as

the summer months approached, which accounted for 70% of the larcenies since the beginning of 2002. So far this year bicycle thefts have followed a traditional pattern of gradual increases into the summer months, a peak, and then the gradual decreases of incidents into the winter months. The bulk of thefts during the summer months took place towards the center of the city where Mid-Cambridge, Riverside, Area 4, and Cambridgeport experienced a majority of the activity.

Neighborhood	2001	2002	Change
East Cambridge	21	12	-43%
MIT	7	4	-43%
Inman/Harrington	7	13	+86%
Area 4	20	26	+30%
Cambridgeport	40	31	-23%
Mid-Cambridge	32	38	+19%
Riverside	23	28	+22%
Agassiz	12	12	N/C
Peabody	15	18	+20%
West Cambridge	31	19	-39%
North Cambridge	27	19	-30%
Cambridge Highlands	5	4	-20%
Strawberry Hill	4	3	-25%

1. Since the start of 2002, about 34% of stolen bicycles were stolen from the street—from meters, signs, and bike racks, locked or unlocked. This statistic is lower than it was last year at this time when 38% of the thefts were occurring on the streets. The remaining 66% of the bicycles were stolen from residential areas such as back yards, front porches, apartment building basements, and garages. This trend of residential thefts is consistent with the past few years, where bicycle theft has been veering away from an unprotected, street environment to protected, residential areas where the bicycles' owners believe the bicycles to be safe.

2. The traditional summertime peak has been blunted in recent years, but has returned this year

when nearly 40% of the thefts since January occurring during June and July (eighty-nine incidents).

## Larcenies from Person

Larcenies from persons describes pocket-picking or any theft which occurs within the victim's area of control. The thefts are non-confrontational, and the victim is usually not aware of the theft until after it has occurred. If a confrontation between the offender and the victim occurs, the crime is recorded as a robbery.

Larceny from persons decreased by 11 percent in the third quarter of 2002 when compared to 2001. All business districts except Harvard Sq. and Alewife/West Cambridge experienced a decrease in this crime. Traditionally, most of the larcenies still fell into two main scenarios:

Business District	2001	2002	Change
Galleria/East Camb.	46	27	-41%
Kendall Square/MIT	14	13	-7%
Inman Square	21	3	-86%
Central Square	61	57	-7%
Cambridgeport/ Riverside	12	9	-25%
Bay Square/ Broadway	8	7	-13%
Harvard Square	104	120	+15%
1500-1900 Mass. Ave.	10	8	-20%
Porter Square	22	17	-23%
Alewife/ West Cambridge	31	35	+13%
Unknown	5	0	Inc.

1. A diner places his or her jacket over the back of a chair, or places her purse under her chair. Someone sitting behind the victim goes through the coat or purse, taking the valuables within, or takes the coat or purse entirely. This accounts for 40% of larcenies from person. As always, larcenies from persons continue to plague restaurants and bars in the Harvard Square area. Despite fluctuations in the intensity of this pattern, it is ever-present. Analysis reveals that these larcenies typically occur between 2:15 to 6:30 p.m. at cafés.
2. A shopper, usually in a supermarket, keeps her purse in her cart. While she is distracted selecting merchandise, someone pilfers the purse from the cart. This scenario accounted for about 22% of reported thefts. This type of theft is not localized in any particular area of the city.

The incidents of pocket-picking, where a suspect reaches into the victim's coat, purse, or backpack and removes valuables while the victim is walking, have significantly declined. Pocket-picking requires a particular skill that modern criminals increasingly fail to develop. Harvard Square reports the highest pocket-picking numbers, with concentrations between noon and 4 p.m.

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## Shoplifting

Shoplifting incidents decreased by 3% during the third quarter of 2002. Even though the decrease is not substantial, it is still encouraging, especially since this type of crime increased by 26% in 2001. Thirty-nine percent of all shoplifting incidents occurred at the Cambridge-side Galleria. Harvard Square makes up the majority of the remaining incidents.

Shoplifters usually fall into one of five categories:

1. **Juvenile Shoplifters** who steal on a dare, to impress their peers, to get an "adrenaline rush," or to compensate for lack of money.
2. **Impulse Shoplifters** who seize a sudden chance, such as an unattended dressing room or a blind aisle. Sometimes, the "impulse" is a long line or sudden lack of money.
3. **Alcoholics, vagrants, and drug addicts**, who steal erratically and clumsily. When caught, this type of shoplifter is more likely than others to get violent (see "Shop Owner/Patron" assaults in the Assault section).
4. **Kleptomaniacs** who steal to satisfy a psychological need.
5. **Professionals**, who steal expensive items and resell them to fences or "flea markets."

Business District	2001	2002	Change
Galleria/East Camb.	134	141	+5%
Kendall Square/MIT	1	1	N.C.
Inman Square	5	5	N.C.
Central Square	53	55	+4%
Cambridgeport/ Riverside	19	22	+16%
Bay Square/Broadway	4	4	N.C.
Harvard Square	66	70	+6%
1500-1900 Mass. Ave.	5	6	+20%
Porter Square	16	17	+6%
Alewife/West Camb.	39	40	+1%

Since shoplifting incidents are most often reported only when an arrest is made, an increase in shoplifting may be viewed positively: more thieves are being caught. On the other hand, since the vast majority of shoplifting incidents are unseen and go unknown until the store checks its inventory, underreporting of shoplifting is a serious problem. The actual shoplifting number may be four to seven times the statistic given in this report.

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## Larceny from Residences

Larcenies from Residences are non-burglary thefts from apartments, hallways, garages, and yards. "Non-burglary" means that no force or trespass was involved in the theft: people who have the right to be on the property commit the thefts. They include thefts committed by guests, roommates, family members, workers, and home health care providers. They also include thefts committed from common areas of apartment buildings, and thefts committed from property surrounding a house, such as the front yard, walkway, or tool shed. Since larcenies from residences are usually committed by someone who knows the victim, pattern identification and intervention by the police department is difficult. This crime increased by 24% from 2001. One pattern to watch involves the theft of mail and packages delivered by parcel services.

Neighborhood	2001	2002	Change
East Cambridge	14	12	-14%
MIT	0	1	Inc.
Inman/Harrington	10	10	N.C.
Area 4	19	15	-21%
Cambridgeport	16	22	+38%
Mid-Cambridge	17	22	+29%
Riverside	10	14	+40%
Agassiz	3	8	+167%
Peabody	9	27	+200%
West Cambridge	8	11	+38%
North Cambridge	11	11	N.C.
Cambridge Highlands	1	2	+100%
Strawberry Hill	4	3	-25%

The most common larceny from residence scenarios are:

- Thefts committed by visitors or guests to a residence: 22%
- Thefts from a yard, porch, or other area surrounding a residence: 13%
- Thefts committed by a family member, spouse, or romantic partner (i.e., “domestic thefts”): 12%
- Thefts committed by someone working in the apartment, such as a painter, plumber, contractor, or maintenance man: 5%
- Thefts from a common hallway, foyer, or storage area of an apartment building: 15%
- Thefts of mail or packages delivered by a parcel service: 3%

Patterns of larcenies from residences are extremely rare; they are often committed by neighbors or other people living in the victim’s apartment building.

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## Larceny of Services

This crime includes taxicab fare evasion, “dining and ditching,” “gassing and going,” and other failures to pay for services already rendered. Those that have occurred during the third quarter of 2002 are as follows:

- 30% theft of gasoline
- 13% drove out of a parking garage without paying.
- 35% “dining & ditching” (i.e., running out of a restaurant without paying for the check)
- 18% cab fare evasions
- 4% miscellaneous

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## Larceny of License Plates

A crime related to Larcenies from Motor Vehicles is the self-explanatory Larcenies of License Plates, which decreased four percent between the third quarter of 2002 and the third quarter of 2001. Stolen plates are often used to replace license plates on stolen automobiles of the same make and model, or to give a

Neighborhood	2001	2002	Change
East Cambridge	14	13	-7%
MIT	2	3	+50%
Inman/Harrington	10	8	-20%
Area 4	8	12	+50%
Cambridgeport	10	5	-50%
Mid-Cambridge	7	2	-71%
Riverside	5	10	+100%
Agassiz	1	2	+100%
Peabody	4	6	+50%
West Cambridge	3	3	N/C
North Cambridge	9	4	-56%
Cambridge Highlands	1	7	+600%
Strawberry Hill	1	1	N/C

plate to an unregistered motor vehicle. Since the theft of a license plate is often unnoticed and unreported for several weeks, the thief’s stolen or unregistered car is somewhat protected from detection during that time.

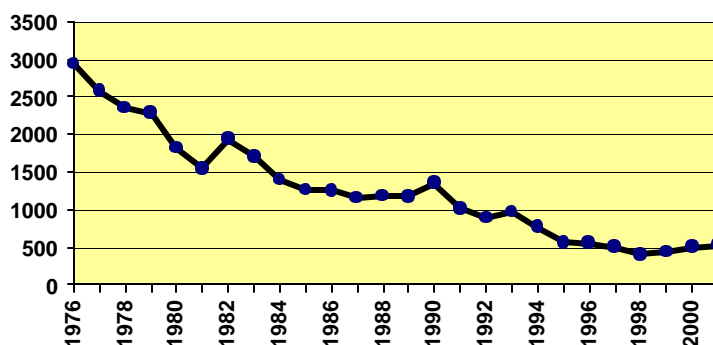
However, new computer technologies which allow patrol officers to quickly check the status of a license plate (and what car it belongs to) are making this crime risky for thieves, thus lowering the rate.

It should be noted that many plates reported stolen simply fell off the vehicle, but when in doubt, the loss is recorded as a larceny.

# Auto Theft

*Defined as the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle, this offense category includes the theft of automobiles, trucks, buses, motorcycles, motor scooters, and snowmobiles. This definition excludes the taking of a motor vehicle for temporary use by persons having lawful access.*

**Auto Theft in Cambridge, 1976-2001**



Auto theft in Cambridge increased slightly in 2001. The traditional summer peak of incidents returned, pushing totals to their highest point in years. As we head into the final quarter of 2002, it looks as though year-end totals for this crime will once again be on the decline.

- The typical theft occurred between Thursdays and Sundays between 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. Thefts were concentrated in the lower half of the city with a notable cluster around Central Square (see auto theft map).

No discernable patterns were reported.

- The MIT neighborhood reported the highest decrease among the neighborhoods – a 69% decrease. The totals in this neighborhood have been decreasing steadily over the last few years, despite the trend of motor vehicle related crime on Vassar Street. The Cambridge Highlands neighborhood reported the second highest decrease – a 67% decrease.
- The Area 4 and Cambridgeport neighborhoods reported the highest totals, followed closely by East Cambridge. The majority of incidents reported in East Cambridge occurred on First, Second, and Third Streets on Fridays and Saturdays.
- No clear patterns were reported in the Cambridgeport neighborhood. However, a high concentration of thefts was reported along River Street, which borders both the Cambridgeport neighborhood and the Riverside neighborhood. Most of these thefts were committed during the summer months. Time frames and car types varied, but most of the thefts occurred during the week, particularly on Tuesdays.

Neighborhood	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2000	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2001	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002
East Cambridge	47	45	45
MIT	21	13	4
Inman/Harrington	29	26	41
Area 4	69	64	50
Cambridgeport	46	58	50
Mid-Cambridge	30	34	19
Riverside	16	32	29
Agassiz	9	11	15
Peabody	26	30	26
West Cambridge	11	25	16
North Cambridge	26	36	36
Cambridge Highlands	11	21	7
Strawberry Hill	3	12	8
Unknown	3	0	0

- Area 4 tends to be a hotspot for motor vehicle related crimes. So far this year, no patterns have been reported however breaks are heavily concentrated along Bishop Allen Drive. In February, two Cambridge men were arrested after officers found them driving a stolen motor vehicle at the intersection of Douglass Street & Bishop Allen Drive. Breaks in this area are concentrated between Thursdays and Sundays between 10:00 p.m. and 1:00 a.m.
- The arrests of three men (two Lowell residents and one Lawrence resident) were made in early May in the Peabody neighborhood. Police received a call that three men were breaking into a car parked in the area and when they arrived they found that the car in question had its hood up and a flashlight was lying underneath. The three men matched the suspect descriptions of the thieves and had in their possession several tools to aid them in their crime.

### Top Ten Makes & Models Stolen

MAKES		MODELS	
Honda	53	Honda Accord	24
Toyota	43	Toyota Camry	20
Ford	30	Honda Civic	17
Acura	23	Acura Integra	15
Nissan	18	Toyota Corolla	9
Jeep	11	Nissan Maxima	8
Dodge	10	Ford Explorer	7
Subaru	9	Ford Escort	7
Yamaha	7	Jeep Cherokee	6
Mitsubishi	7	Saturn SL2	5

### Auto Theft Recoveries

CITY	NUMBER OF RECOVERIES
Cambridge	65
Boston	46
Somerville	8
Lowell	7
Lawrence	5
Arlington	4
Dorchester	4
Roxbury	3
East Boston	3

